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WEDNESDAY,
OCTOBER 6, 2021

\$3

Shining light on Wabash County since 1859.

Tomorrow's weather 74 | 62



Pulse
of Wabash

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American Red Cross schedules blood donation opportunities

The American Red Cross has scheduled regular blood drives from 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 6 at Northfield High School, 154 W. 200 North; and from 1 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 13 at Richvalley Community Center, 56 Mill St. Also, a blood drive in honor of Kole Adamiec, 6, of North Manchester, who is fighting cancer, has been scheduled from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11 at Manchester Elementary School, 301 S. River Road, North Manchester. To donate blood, simply download the American Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit RedCrossBlood.org, call 800-RED-CROSS

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Only a few days left to nominate 'Best of Wabash'

The deadline to submit entries for this year's contest is Thursday, Oct. 14

By ROB BURGESS
Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

Nominations are now open for the Plain Dealer's annual Best of Wabash County contest.

However, the window to submit your favorites will close soon. This means if you have any intention of highlighting the best in your community, you have only a few days left to do so.

Nominations for the contest began Wednesday, Sept. 29, and they will close Thursday, Oct. 14.

All nominations and voting are done online.

Please visit <https://wabashplaindealer.secondstreetapp.com/Wabash-County-Greatest-2021/> to get started.

After round one nominations are completed and we tally the votes to determine the top three winners of each category, we will begin the voting to select winners. Voting starts on Saturday, Oct. 23. Winners will be announced on Saturday, Nov. 20.

The categories are listed

under 10 groups:

■ Greatest Entertainment: Bingo, Bowling Center, Festival or Event, Golf Course and Live Theatre.

■ Greatest Food: Greatest Buffet, Family Restaurant, Casual Restaurant, Fine Dining, Sports Bar

See BEST OF, page A4

ISDH: Nearly all current COVID-19 deaths unvaccinated

94th, 95th Wabash County virus deaths reported as local vaccinations still lag

By ROB BURGESS
Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

Over the weekend, the Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) reported the 94th and 95th COVID-19 deaths in Wabash County.

Since the pandemic began, Wabash County has now tallied more than 5,000 cases of COVID-19 total.

On Tuesday, ISDH deputy chief of staff and Office of Public Affairs director Jennifer O'Malley said with the dashboard now updating only at 5 p.m. weekdays, and not on weekends as they used to, Monday's dashboard update will always reflect zero new deaths "because the dashboard captures information from the past 24 hours and is not updated over the weekend."

"Deaths reported over the weekend are included in Tuesday's totals. All deaths reported on the dashboard are those in which the death certificate lists COVID," said O'Malley.

O'Malley said according to their most recent data chronicling the recent surge of COVID-19 infections, "the vast majority of deaths are occurring among people who are not vaccinated."

According to the ISDH's most recent data on COVID-19 in Indiana, for the week of Thursday, Sept.

See COVID, page A9

Students in WHS course to restore historic electric car



Provided photo

In August, the Wabash County Museum acquired a 1980 Comuta-Car.

Wabash County Museum recently acquired 1980 Comuta-Car

By ROB BURGESS
Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

In August, the Wabash County Museum acquired a piece of electric vehicle history.

The question was, though, how to restore the 1980 Comuta-Car.

Wabash County Museum executive director Teresa Galley "immediately began brainstorming on how to get it restored."

"Eventually, she came upon the idea of having the stu-

dents in the Wabash High School (WHS) Project Lead The Way (PLTW) Principles of Engineering course do the work. When approached with the idea, the students and teacher jumped at the prospect of bringing a piece of history they never even knew about back to life," said WHS assistant principal Jeff Galley.

Jeff Galley said the museum's version is a second generation of the vehicle.

"Our goal is to get this little car back on the road, even if it is only in downtown Wabash,"

said Teresa Galley. "This will be an amazing addition to our vehicle collection that already includes a caboose and a 1971 firetruck."

Jeff Galley said this was the most widely-sold electric vehicle in the United States until the Tesla Model S came out in 2012.

"With less room than a golf cart and the design of a doorstop, the Comuta-Car line is recognized as the first mass-produced electric vehicle for the general public in the late 1970s and into the

early 1980s, manufactured by Commuter Vehicles," said Jeff Galley. "What was originally produced as a solution to the economic and energy crisis issues of the '70s and '80s is today a physical lesson in not only history but how alternative energy can survive the ages and still be impactful decades later."

Jeff Galley said when they were approached with the idea, "the students and teacher jumped at the prospect of

See ELECTRIC CAR, page A9

Wabash native Michael Palascak to perform Thursday

'Last Comic Standing' contestant to take Eagles Theatre stage

By ROB BURGESS
Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

A Wabash native is returning to his hometown this week after launching a successful comedy career.

Michael Palascak is a comedian, writer, and actor now based in Los Angeles.

He's done stand-up on "The Late Show with Stephen Colbert," "The Late Show with James Corden," "Conan," "Comedy Central's Half Hour" and was a Top 5 Finalist on "Last Comic Standing."

Palascak will perform at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct.

7 at the Honeywell Arts & Entertainment's Eagles Theatre. The performance is sponsored by Dorais Chevrolet Buick GMC.

Tickets are on sale now and are available by calling 260-563-1102 or online at HoneywellArts.org. All seats are \$20.

"It's one of my favorite

See PALASCAK, page A2

Manchester University Homecoming Concert is Friday, Oct. 8

It features A Cappella Choir, Chamber Singers and Jazz Ensemble

By ANNE GREGORY

The Manchester University Music Department will present the annual

Homecoming Concert at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 8.

The concert will be in Cordier Auditorium on the North Manchester campus. General admission is free with a suggested donation of \$5. Mask and social distancing are required.

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Provided photo

Attendees of the tour will spend their time “visiting a hidden gravesite, walking a haunted trail and examining the remains of a notorious killer.”

Fright Night Trolley No. 85 Tour planned for Friday, Oct. 22

STAFF REPORT

Visit Wabash County has announced the Fright Night Trolley No. 85 Tour, according to marketing manager Whitney Millspaugh. “Prepare to be spooked throughout the night visiting a hidden gravesite, walking a haunted trail and examining the remains of a notorious killer,” said Millspaugh. The tour will take place from 7 to 10 p.m. Friday, Oct. 22, is \$30 per person, and will begin at the Visit Wabash County Welcome Center in downtown Wabash. You must be 21 years of age or older to sign up. “Led by history enthusiast Heather Allen and Wabash

County Museum archives director TJ Honeycutt, this tour will explore the continuing tale about the infamous John Hubbard. With their research and knowledge of the legends and lore of Wabash County, this tour is sure to send chills down your spine,” said Millspaugh. Snacks and cocktails will be served along the tour. “Fright Night is one of our most popular tours of the year,” said Visit Wabash County tourism manager Jennifer Long-Dillon. “With so much eerie history in Wabash County, I am thrilled to partner with the Wabash County Museum to bring you an awesome, bone-chilling experience. Tickets will sell out fast, so don’t wait to

sign up.” Tickets for the Fright Night Trolley No. 85 Tour are \$30 per person and all-inclusive. This is a tour for those ages 21 and up and participants must be able to walk unassisted, as there will be uneven ground and long walking required. For more information, visit www.visitwabashcounty.com/trolley-tours or 221 S. Miami St. or call 260-563-7171. Payment is due upon registration. Visit Wabash County would like to thank First Farmers Bank & Trust for sponsoring this tour and J.M. Reynolds Oil Company, Inc. for being the official fuel provider for Trolley No. 85.

Delta Kappa Gamma International holds state convention

STAFF REPORT

Indiana State Organization of Delta Kappa Gamma Society International (DKG) held its “Celebrate the Society” convention Saturday, June 12 at the Primo Banquet and Convention Center in Indianapolis, according to Nancy Kolb. Alpha Zeta Chapter members attending were Roxanne Thomas, Barb Overdeer, Donna Ott, Barb Buroker, Carol Herzog, Mary Lou Fries, Mary Catherine Palmer and Chapter President Ann Ambler. At the convention, there

was a Ceremony of Remembrance, a business meeting, entertainment, a luncheon, recognition of chapter presidents, installation of state officers, and an Honors program. Indiana State Organization Officers installed for the 2021-2023 biennium are: ■ President: Stephanie Walsh ■ First Vice President: Tiffany Ingles ■ Second Vice President: Mary Catherine Palmer (from Alpha Zeta Chapter) ■ Secretary: Nancy Durham During the Honors program Alpha Zeta members received

the following certificates: ■ 25-year member: Mary Catherine Palmer ■ 40-year member: Donna Ott ■ 60-year member: Mary Lou Fries (mother of Mary Catherine Palmer) Alpha Zeta Chapter received a Golden Key Honors Award certificate and a 5 Star Newsletter Award. A silent basket auction raised \$1,200 for the DKG Emergency Fund. Alpha Zeta Chapter donated two baskets. Alpha Zeta Chapter members are from Grant, Huntington, Wabash and Whitley counties.

Delta Kappa Gamma Society International holds Sept. meeting

STAFF REPORT

Alpha Zeta Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma Society International (DKG) met Saturday, Sept. 18, according to Nancy Kolb. The meeting, held at St. Peter’s First Community Church in Huntington, was opened at 8:30 a.m. by president Ann Ambler, with 20 members present. The opening thought was an original poem about the chapter by Brenda Landis. Prayer was given by Kolb. Continental breakfast was enjoyed by all. The program, “Relationships: The Building Blocks of Teaching and Learning,” was presented by Adam Drummond who is from the International Center for Leadership in Education. “He stressed that no learning occurs without a relationship between the teacher and student. Teachers need to know their students’ interests so they can connect content and curriculum to them and make learning relevant. Spending five minutes every day in a one-on-one uninterrupted conversation with a child would

add up to 900 minutes a year. Think of what that would do for that child,” said Kolb. Committee Reports included: Professional Affairs: Grants-in-Aid applications were handed out. Current teachers should apply for these scholarships as the money may be used for projects in the classroom or workshops. Personal Growth: Karen Kinney read, “We Are in a Book” (An Elephant and Piggie Book) by Mo Willems. “Kinney wrote an article about how the chapter members stayed together by communicating and calling each other during the pandemic,” said Kolb. “The article hopefully will be published in the November issue of the DKG collegial Magazine.” Kathaleen Reese led the group in singing songs with a happy theme. Those who have iPads or laptops are encouraged to bring them to the next meeting for a tutorial on how to record books for the Virtual Library. Roxanne Thomas noted that Janet O’Neal, chair-

person of the Indiana State Organization Seminar for Personal Growth, reported that the Leadership Seminar will be held in November 2022 in Columbia City. On Saturday, June 12, at the Indiana State Organization Convention, the Alpha Zeta Chapter received two awards – a 5 Star Newsletter Award and a golden Key Honor Award. Indiana State Organization President Stephanie Walsh, challenged each chapter to increase their membership by 5 percent which would be four members for this chapter. The closing thought was given by Jadean Barnes “with words of wisdom from Winnie-the-Pooh.” The meeting adjourned at 11 a.m. with the singing of the “Delta Kappa Gamma Song.” Those members attending the meeting from Wabash County were Brenda Landis and Kolb. Delta Kappa Gamma is a women’s education society of key women educators. Alpha Zeta Chapter is made up of members who work or live in Grant, Huntington, Wabash or Whitley counties.

Public’s help sought in probe of Indiana county’s barn fires

ELKHART (AP) — Police in a northern Indiana county are seeking the public’s help as they investigate a string of fires that have destroyed or damaged eight barns since last spring. Monday’s request from the Elkhart County Sheriff’s Office came after two fires about one mile apart

destroyed two barns in the southern part of the county last Friday. “They were a total loss,” said Capt. Mike Culp. Friday’s fires brought to eight the number of barns in the county that have been hit by fires since April, The Elkhart Truth reported. Culp asked anyone who

lives near the locations of those eight fires and has home security cameras to review footage from the dates of the fires and report anything suspicious to the sheriff’s office. The sheriff’s office is investigating the fires with the State Fire Marshal’s Office.

5-Day Weather Summary

| | | | | |
|--|--|--|---|---|
| Wednesday Few Showers 76 / 64 | Thursday Showers Likely 74 / 62 | Friday Scattered T-storms 73 / 60 | Saturday Partly Cloudy 77 / 61 | Sunday Partly Cloudy 80 / 62 |
|--|--|--|---|---|

Sun and Moon

Today's sunset 7:17 p.m.
Tomorrow's sunrise 7:45 a.m.

| | | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| New 10/6 | First 10/12 | Full 10/20 | Last 10/28 |
|-----------------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|

Detailed Local Outlook

Today we will see mostly cloudy skies with a 60% chance of showers, high temperature of 76°, humidity of 73%. East wind 6 to 9 mph. Expect cloudy skies tonight with a 70% chance of showers, overnight low of 64°. East southeast wind 5 to 8 mph.

PALASCAC

From page A1

places,” he said of Wabash, during a recent phone interview. “My stuff is pretty clean. Kids might not necessarily understand some of the stuff I talk about. It’s about being an adult, but it’s clean, so they won’t have weird questions about it. I like performing at Eagles and I’m excited to be in the new space. Whenever I get to go back to Wabash it’s one I circle on my calendar and try to enjoy.” Palascac said it was “nice to get back” to performing live again. “It seems like a lot of places are opening up,” he said. “I did some (live shows) during the pandemic, too, but a lot less. Like, everything was closed.” Palascac said at the beginning of the pandemic comedians audiences mainly transitioned to Zoom shows, which he ended up enjoying. “When you do a live show, everyone is hearing the joke and laughing together. That is great. But with a Zoom show, you don’t get to hear people laugh, so you get to hear everyone’s reactions, so no one is affected by anyone else. Which is a very unique experience and it gives you a certain confidence because you’re not hearing anything, you’re just seeing it,” he said. Palascac said during the pandemic he produced a web series called “The Bright Side” with National Lampoon on YouTube. “It was really like a fun thing to just sort of shoot out of my apartment and edit myself and do most of it all by myself,” he said. Palascac said writing stand-up material while under lockdown was another “unique experience.” “Normally you write and then you go on stage that night, but I got to write and then just work on it over and over and over again. It’s kind of cool,” he said. Palascac said he started his stand-up career after his parents moved to Chicago when he was in college for his father’s job. “My dad always asked at the dinner table if anyone had any jokes. And so I was a little kid and I got a joke book and I would just do jokes to the point where they had to be like, ‘OK we’re going to eat now,’” he said. “I was getting the light at a very young age. My dad always asked he was like, ‘Michael, what




Provided photo

Michael Palascac will perform at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 7 at the Honeywell Arts & Entertainment's Eagles Theatre.

is the hardest job in the world?’ And would be like, ‘I don’t know space pilot,’ or something crazy. And he was like, ‘No, stand-up comedian is the hardest job. Until you get people to like and laugh with you it can be very hard.’ He gave it so much reverence that it was impressed on me at a young age.” Palascac said he always had funny people around him. “People are always like, ‘Were you the class clown?’ It’s like, ‘No I knew who they were because I had lunch with them and they were funny,’” he said. Palascac said when his parents moved to the Chicago area he didn’t know anybody up there. “So I was just at a book store, and I found a book on stand-up and in the back of the book it had a list of places where you could go up at when you first start and one of them was like literally 15 minutes from where my parents had just moved. So I read that book, called the number and started my career,” he said. Palascac said as a career experience, “Last Comic Standing” was a huge boost. It allowed him to go on a 78-show theater tour afterward of audiences from 500 to 2,000 people every night and travel on a tour bus with four other comedians. Palascac said he had taped the year before, too, but they just didn’t use his set. “I didn’t advance. I sort of got the first one out of way of trying to figure out what it is. It is a competition so how do you put yourself in a position to have a good set in a scenario that’s not normal,” he said. Palascac said when he did the show the second year he didn’t know I was

doing it until the last minute. “I was super tired. They filmed the green room, and everyone’s just going crazy for six to eight hours in the green room. But I just sort of tried to sleep the whole time. I waited. And I just sort of looked at it like an open mic that happened to be filmed. And I went out there and did my best stuff I could do, but you’re doing three minutes which is kind of like an open mic in Chicago or L.A. I went out there and I was prepared and did my set and sort of took note of the things that happened last year,” he said. Palascac said even though it was a competition that was subjective “it did feel good to be able to move on every time.” “I knew I was somebody they picked the week before to do the show. I wasn’t someone that got selected early on. There was no sense I’m supposed to move on. It felt really good to keep moving on,” he said. Palascac said the show was shot in two weeks. “After we shot the first two episodes I was going back on the road. I think I went home for Easter and I did like six or seven sets around Chicago working on my jokes,” he said. Palascac said when Keenan Ivory Wayans picked him he realized he had a career. “There’s ups and downs. And at that point going into ‘Last Comic Standing’ my dad was like, ‘What are you going to do? You don’t have a lot of work coming up.’ And then that happened. So I was like, ‘Well I’m going to do this for a little while,’” he said. Palascac said his advice to up-and-coming comics was to enjoy the moments as they come and to maintain a positive attitude. “It’s important to take care of yourself,” he said. Palascac said constant writing and performing were also important. “Some people can just go on stage or do podcasts or whatever but I always liked writing and the work of it. And just being on stage a lot. I think when you think about stand-up you don’t know how good you can be. You only know how good you are now. And you can look around and see how other people are doing, but if you keep working at it you can probably get better,” he said. *Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, may be reached by email at rburgess@wabashplaineader.com.*



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Talk to us

Kelly Miller, Publisher
kmiller@wabashplaineader.com

Rob Burgess, Editor
rburgess@wabashplaineader.com

Vicki Williams, Advertising Director
vwilliams@h-ponline.com

Main number: 260-563-2131

Newsroom
260-563-2131
news@wabashplaineader.com

Website
www.wabashplaineader.com

Fax: 260-563-0816

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Obituaries

An example in New Orleans

Carson Coyle runs around like any healthy young boy. Coyle suffered brain damage at his birth two years ago, with hospital staff at one point predicting that he had just hours to live. But

Kathryn Lopez



then a judge prayed over Carson's cradle with a cross from the Francis Xavier Seelos shrine in New Orleans, and a miracle is believed to have

happened – Coyle healed essentially overnight and is thriving today. Coyle's recovery might just be the miracle that Seelos – who died in 1867, ministering to New Orleans residents during a yellow fever pandemic – needs to be recognized as a saint.

On a recent visit to his tomb, I stood in the confessional where Father Seelos would hear confessions for hours; people would line up to encounter God's mercy through the instrument of this German Redemptorist missionary priest, who always had time for people. Seelos would sleep in his clothes in the room closest to the door so he could answer night calls for hospital runs. He famously heard the confession of a dying prostitute.

Before COVID hit, people flocked to his shrine for a closeness to him, with prayers for healing. He was beatified by Pope John Paul II in 2000, but locals have long considered him a saint.

To visit his shrine in New Orleans is to remember, in the wake of Hurricane Ida and in the continuing midst of the COVID pandemic, what is most important. There is a power in virtuous living. Goodness can be more contagious than the delta variant.

Seelos had a clarity about life that he tried to impart at every opportunity. He wouldn't flee from or bemoan suffering. To his brother, he wrote: "See your cross in the exact fulfilling of the duties of your state in life. Carry it daily by overcoming all anger and grumbling. Carry it willingly, make an offering of yourself to God for those

dear to you, and for the salvation of your soul. Through self-conquest all of us must earn heaven, and through self-denial, bring down blessings for this present life." He wasn't preaching from some lofty throne but was living alongside immigrants at a time of rampant anti-Catholicism.

To his sister, he wrote: "(W)hen the pleasure-loving animal in us is put to death through unrelenting prayer, the daily fulfilling of our duty, constant self-denial and carrying of our cross, then everything becomes sweet; then we understand the value of suffering. Then a gentle and joyful aura radiates from our whole person ... It is the joy that our loving Redeemer gives to his followers, a peace that is the real sign of perfection and holiness." That's the approach to life that kept him moving forward with joy. And he continues to be a model of how to live well with the limited time we have.

One contemporary priest testified: "It seemed to be a rule with him never to lose a moment's precious time. When not elsewhere employed, he was sure to be found in the oratory or in his room, praying, writing or studying."

We waste a lot of time, constantly looking at our phones or losing ourselves in the trivial busywork of everyday life. Could we make better use of it?

Such holy living is not for priests alone.

You don't have to be a Catholic Christian or know anything about Seelos beyond this column to find inspiration. We can all try to focus on the more important things while helping our neighbors. God has given us everything we need to find wholeness through love and service. We just need to use what he has given us.

Don't let distractions detract from living well. Father Seelos encourages us still.

Kathryn Jean Lopez is senior fellow at the National Review Institute, editor-at-large of National Review magazine and author of the new book "A Year With the Mystics: Visionary Wisdom for Daily Living." She is also chair of Cardinal Dolan's pro-life commission in New York. She can be contacted at klopez@nationalreview.com.

Russian film crew in orbit to make first movie in space

By **VLADIMIR ISACHENKOV**
Associated Press

MOSCOW — A Russian actor and a film director rocketed to space Tuesday on a mission to make the world's first movie in orbit, a project the Kremlin said will help burnish the nation's space glory.

Actor Yulia Peresild and director Klim Shipenko blasted off for the International Space Station in a Russian Soyuz spacecraft together with cosmonaut Anton Shkaplerov, a veteran of three space missions. Their Soyuz MS-19 lifted off as scheduled at 1:55 p.m. (0855 GMT) from the Russian space launch facility in Baikonur, Kazakhstan and arrived at the station after about 3½ hours.

Shkaplerov took manual controls to smoothly dock the spacecraft at the space outpost after a glitch in an automatic docking system.

The trio reported they were feeling fine and spacecraft systems were functioning normally.

Peresild and Klimenko are to film segments of a new movie titled "Challenge," in which a surgeon played by Peresild rushes to the space station to save a crew member who needs an urgent operation in or-

bit. After 12 days on the space outpost, they are set to return to Earth with another Russian cosmonaut.

Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said the mission will help showcase Russia's space prowess.

"We have been pioneers in space and maintained a confident position," Peskov said. "Such missions that help advertise our achievements and space exploration in general are great for the country."

Speaking at a pre-flight news conference Monday, 37-year-old Peresild acknowledged that it was challenging for her to adapt to the strict discipline and rigorous demands during the training.

"It was psychologically, physically and morally hard," she said. "But I think that once we achieve the goal, all that will seem not so difficult and we will remember it with a smile."

Shipenko, 38, who has made several commercially successful movies, also described their fast-track, four-month preparation for the flight as tough.

"Of course, we couldn't make many things at the first try, and sometimes even at a third attempt, but it's normal," he said.

Donna Jean Martin

March 22, 1931 – Oct. 2, 2021

Donna Jean Martin, 90, of Wabash, Indiana, died at 8:28 pm, Saturday, Oct. 2, 2021, at Parkview Wabash Hospital. She was born on March 22, 1931, in Warsaw, Indiana, to Artie and Ella (Engles) Walters.

Donna was a 1949 graduate of Gilead High School. She married Rex Martin in Delaware County, Indiana on Jan. 11, 1952; he died Feb. 5, 1983. Donna, her husband Rex, and three others, were former co-owners of Quality Electric in Wabash, and she also worked at Key Pharmacy in North Manchester nine years. She enjoyed gardening, working in her yard, going to garage sales, and going on senior bus trips. She loved her poodle, Candy.

She is survived by her son, Jeffery (Elaine) Martin of Wabash, four grandchildren,



Katherine Martin of San Antonio, Texas, Daniel (Crystal) Martin of Mooresville, Indiana, Gregory Martin and Abby (Mike) Moyer, both of Wabash, eight great grandchildren and one great granddaughter. She was also preceded in death by her parents, son, Rick Martin who died April 1, 2019, daughter-in-law, Jackie Martin, two brothers, three sisters.

Graveside service and burial will be 10 am, Thursday, Oct. 7, 2021, at Oaklawn Cemetery, North Manchester, with David Phillips officiating. Arrangements by Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Service, Wabash.

Preferred memorial is Animal Shelter of Wabash County..

The memorial guest book for Donna may be signed at www.grandstaff-hentgen.com.

Georgia E. Crum

Aug. 17, 1917 – Oct. 4, 2021

Georgia E. Crum, 104, of Headland, Alabama, formerly of Wabash, died at 2:39 am, Monday, Oct. 4, 2021, at her home in Headland. She was born on Aug. 17, 1917, in Lee County, Virginia, to Frank and Virginia (Kirk) Monroe.

She married Noble Hensley, on Sept. 16, 1935, in Kentucky, and he died March 28, 1965. She worked at Wabash Magnetics 11 years, General Tire in Wabash, and was a head cook at the Wabash cafeteria. She also worked at Fenns in Jacksonville, Florida. She attended the Apostolic Church in Wabash and enjoyed going to church and spending time with family.

She is survived by five children. Harold Hensley of Piketon, Ohio, J.B. Hensley of Las Vegas, Nevada, Brenda (Chuck) McConnell



of Lakeland, Florida, Carolyn (Bruce Warren) Konrath of Jacksonville, Florida, Judy (James) Gale of Headland, Alabama, several grandchildren, several great grandchildren, and several great-great grandchildren. She was also preceded in death by her parents, son Ralph Hensley, and daughter Geraldine Moore.

Funeral services will be 2 pm, Thursday, Oct. 7, 2021, at Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Service, 1241 Manchester Avenue, Wabash, with Pastor Bill Crank officiating. Entombment will be in Chapel of Remembrance Mausoleum, at Memorial Lawns Cemetery, Wabash. Friends may call 12:30-2 Thursday at the funeral home.

The memorial guest book for Georgia may be signed at www.grandstaff-hentgen.com.

Eleonore K. Smith

Feb. 18, 1934 – Sept. 30, 2021

Eleonore K. Smith, 87, of Wabash, passed away at 5:48 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 30, 2021, at her residence. She was born on Feb. 18, 1934, in Schweinfurt, Germany, to the late Johanne Mueller and Frieda V. Schaefer.

An Oma Celebration will be held from 4 to 8 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 8, 2021, at 1727 N 300 E., Lagro, Indiana

46941. Preferred memorials are to St. Bernard Catholic Church, Wabash.

McDonald Funeral Homes, 231 Falls Avenue, Wabash, Indiana, 46992, have been trusted with Eleonore K. Smith's final arrangements.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.mcdonaldfunerals.com.

Norma Jean Bradley

July 21, 1949 – Oct. 1, 2021

Norma Jean Bradley, 72, Warsaw, died Oct. 1, 2021. She was born in Magoffin County, Kentucky on July 21, 1949.

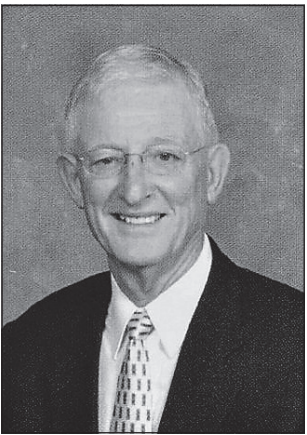
Surviving is her husband, Gordon Bradley; daughters, Jeanette (Trent) Wuchter and Gordonell (Greg) Horton; brothers, John, Paul and Odell Wireman; sisters, Karen Hensley and Bernice Warrix; grandchildren, Trenton (Abi) Wuchter, Kyle

(Brittney) Wuchter, Morgan Wuchter, Chayla Wuchter, Gordon and Grant Horton; great-grandchildren, Cale Wuchter, Nova Wuchter, Eli Wuchter, Audrey Wuchter, Sawyer and Parker Goodsell.

Visitation Wednesday, Oct. 6, 2021 from 12 -2 p.m. at McKee Mortuary, 1401 S.R. 114 West, North Manchester. Funeral services will begin at the conclusion of calling.

Larry Ray

Jan. 22, 1939 – Oct. 1, 2021



Our treasured husband, father, and grandfather, Larry Ray, joined his friend and Savior on Oct. 1, 2021. Larry was born in Greencastle, IN on Jan. 22, 1939, and grew up on the family farm near Cloverdale, IN. He attended Purdue University (BS Agriculture 1961, MS Education 1965), and United Theological Seminary (MDIV 1969). Larry and his wife, Wilma, met at Purdue and married on Dec. 24, 1961. They have two daughters; Lynn Ray and Nancy (George) Chung, and three granddaughters: Veronica, Vanessa, and Valerie Chung.

Larry is also survived by his brother, Rod (Linda) Ray, nephew Anthony (Kathryn) Ray, and niece Michelle (Chris) Librie, and great-nephews/great-nieces, Carson and Fiona Ray and Caleb and Cadence Librie.

After serving as the Vocational Agriculture, Biology, and Chemistry teacher at Urbana HS and Vocational Agriculture teacher at Northfield HS, Larry attended United Theological Seminary in Dayton, OH. He interned as an associate pastor at St. Andrews UMC in Milton, PA and in 1969, was ordained as Elder in the United Methodist Church for the former North Indiana Conference.

Larry and Wilma began their ministry in Colfax and New Hope. From there, they served churches in La Fontaine, Huntington, Kendallville, Bluffton, and South Bend. Before retiring in

2004, Larry served as District Superintendent of the Fort Wayne United Methodist District for 8 years. In post-retirement, he was the parish visitation pastor for North Manchester UMC.

Larry believed in passing Christ's love to all humankind. He knew that God loves everyone. He spent 53 years of providing pastoral care to anyone who needed him and left an imprint on us all.

Visit www.grandstaff-hentgen.com/obituary/larry-ray to share memories of Larry. The viewing will be: 3 – 8 PM on Oct. 7th in the Fellowship Hall of Wabash First UMC and the Celebration of Life/Funeral Service is on: October 8th at 10:30 AM also at First UMC, Wabash, IN.

In lieu of flowers, the family encourages donations of money or time in Larry's name to any of the following: Habitat for Humanity, Heifer International, Appalachian Trail Conservancy, or your church of choice.

Richard ‘Dick’ E. Maish

Dec. 29, 1938 – Oct. 2, 2021

Richard “Dick” E. Maish, 82, of Anderson, passed away on Oct. 2, 2021 at Franciscan Health Hospital in Crown Point, Indiana. He was born on Dec. 29, 1938 in Wabash, Indiana to the late James and Winifred (Nolte) Maish.

Dick graduated from Roann High School in 1956. He served his country as a Marine from 1956 through 1958. In 1961, he graduated from the International Barber College. He owned and operated Belvedere Hairstyling in Anderson for 60 years. He was a member of the Ovid Community Church, Fellowship Masonic Lodge, Madison County Shrine Club, Murat Temple and the Elks Lodge in Anderson and Alexandria.

Dick is survived by his children, Carol (Bryan) Niksch of Lowell, Indiana, Karen (Dan) Johnson of Galesburg, Illinois, Jeff (Steve) Maish-Ramirez of Albuquerque,



New Mexico; life partner, Diana Stephens of Anderson; brother, Ronald Maish of Corunna, Indiana; grandchildren, Hunter and Peyton Niksch;

extended family, Carol (Brian) Mulcahy, Jordan (Kyle) Carter, Eli Mulcahy, Connie (Frank) Ferret and Robyn (Todd) Boetzel.

He was preceded in death by his parents, and family friend, Lance Grahlf.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Friday at 6 pm at Brown-Butz-Diedring Funeral Service & Crematory, 515 E. 53rd St., Anderson, IN 46013 with Pastor Keith Wooden officiating.

Visitation will be on Friday from 3 to 6 pm at the funeral home.

Memorial Contributions may be made to the Madison County Shrine Club.

You may post online condolences at www.brownbutzdiedring.com.

Fredrick K. ‘Bud’ Arven

Fredrick K. “Bud” Arven, 92, of LaFontaine, passed away at 11:45 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 1, 2021, at his residence.

Bud is survived by Sally, his loving wife of 71 years; one son, Brian K. Arven; three daughters, Teresa (Ralph) Skaggs, Debra (Michael) McKillip, and Jacalyn (Gary) Wilson; nine grandchildren and 20 great-grand-

children.

Private family graveside services will be held at the LaFontaine IOOF Cemetery.

McDonald Funeral Homes, LaFontaine Chapel, 104 South Main Street, LaFontaine, Indiana, have been trusted with Bud Arven's arrangements.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.mcdonaldfunerals.com.

Robin Davis

Robin Davis, 68, of Lagro, passed away at 10:25 a.m. on Friday, Oct. 1, 2021.

A graveside service will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 6, 2021, at Memorial Lawns Cemetery, Wabash.

Calling hours for friends and family will be from 12 to 1:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 6, 2021, at McDonald Funeral Homes, Wabash.

After the graveside service, a dinner will be provided at the Lagro Community Building in Lagro.

McDonald Funeral Homes, 231 Falls Avenue, Wabash, Indiana, 46992,

U.N.: Global water crisis amid climate change

By **SUMAN NAISHADHAM**
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Much of the world is unprepared for the floods, hurricanes and droughts expected to worsen with climate change and urgently needs better warning systems to avert water-related disasters, according to a report by the United Nations' weather agency.

Global water management is “fragmented and inade-

quate,” the report published Tuesday found, with nearly 60 percent of 101 countries surveyed needing improved forecasting systems that can help prevent devastation from severe weather.

As populations grow, the number of people with inadequate access to water is also expected to rise to more than 5 billion by 2050, up from 3.6 billion in 2018, the report said.

Among the actions recom-

mended by the report were better warning systems for flood- and drought-prone areas that can identify, for example, when a river is expected to swell. Better financing and coordination among countries on water management is also needed, according to the report by the U.N.'s World Meteorological Organization, development agencies and other groups.

“We need to wake up to

the looming water crisis,” said Petteri Taalas, secretary general of the World Meteorological Organization.

The report found that since 2000, flood-related disasters globally rose 134 percent compared with the previous two decades. Most flood-related deaths and economic losses were in Asia, where extreme rainfall caused massive flooding in China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Nepal and Pakistan in the past year.

The gospel according to the late Bishop John Shelby Spong

Bishop John Shelby Spong of Newark, New Jersey, never stuck “Why Christianity Must Change or Die” on the doors of Canterbury Cathedral,

Terry Mattingly



since it was easier to post a talking-points version of his manifesto on the internet. “Theism, as a way of defining God, is dead,” he proclaimed in 1998. “Since God can no longer be conceived in theistic terms, it becomes nonsensical to seek to understand Jesus as the incarnation of the theistic deity.” Lacking a personal God, it was logical to add: “Prayer cannot be a request made to a theistic deity to act in human history in a particular way.” Spong’s 12-point take on post-theism faith emerged after spending years on the road, giving hundreds of speeches and appearing on broadcasts such as “The Oprah Winfrey Show” and “Larry King Live.” While leading the Episcopal Diocese of Newark, within shouting range of New York City, he did everything he could to become the news-media face of liberal Christianity.

By the time of his death at the age of 90 – on Sept. 12 at his home in Richmond, Virginia – Spong had seen many of his once-heretical beliefs – especially on sex and marriage – normalized in most Episcopal pulpits and institutions. However, his doctrinal approach was too blunt for many in the mainline establishment, where a quieter “spiritual but not religious” approach has become the norm. Spong called himself a “doubting believer” and said he had no problem reciting traditional rites and creeds because, in his own mind, he had already redefined the words and images to fit his own doctrines. He also knew when to be cautious, such as during a Denver visit in the late 1980s – an era in which the Diocese of Colorado remained a center for evangelical and charismatic Episcopalians. After a lecture at the liberal St. Thomas Episcopal Church, I asked Spong if he believed the resurrection of Jesus was a “historic event that took place in real time.” “I don’t think that I can say what the disciples believed they experienced. I’ll have to think about that some more,” he said, moving on to another question. The bishop answered a de-

cade later, in his memo calling for a new Reformation: “Resurrection is an action of God. Jesus was raised into the meaning of God. It therefore cannot be a physical resurrection occurring inside human history.” Frequently, Spong floated doctrinal test balloons in The Voice, his diocesan newspaper. Here are some other famous quotations. -- On scripture: “The Gospels portray Jesus as believing that David wrote the Psalms, Solomon the Proverbs and Moses the Torah – a position which any graduate from any accredited seminary would today quickly dismiss.” -- On the Virgin Mary: “The Mary I see in church history is a de-sexed woman. ... Her humanity has been taken away from her, and I think (Mary) makes a very poor symbol.” -- On science: “We have practiced our enormous scientific and technical skills to open doors to aspects of life that once we assigned only to the gods. ... The power of divinity is more and more our own power.” Spong argued that churches that didn’t embrace modernity were doomed. Nevertheless, during his era, Episcopal Church membership fell from 3.4 million in the 1960s to 1.6

million in 2019, according to official statistics. During Spong’s tenure as bishop (1976-2000), Newark diocese membership declined from 62,732 to 36,674. That number was down to 23,045 in 2019. Spong was not troubled. “When Jesus said, ‘Come unto me all ye,’ he did not add, ‘so long as you are not divorced or gay or a woman bishop or a doubter,’” he wrote. “This church of ours may never be the church of the masses; it will never satisfy the emotional needs of the religiously insecure.” Speaking at Drew Theological School in New Jersey, the bishop also urged believers not to worry about eternity. “Nobody knows what the afterlife is all about; nobody even knows if there is one,” Spong said in 2010. “All of these images of bliss and punishment, heaven and hell are not about the afterlife at all. They’re about controlling human behavior with fear and guilt. ... “We don’t need a savior. If Jesus died for your sins, you are one wretched human being. I don’t think that’s good news.” *Terry Mattingly leads GetReligion.org and lives in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. He is a senior fellow at the Overby Center at the University of Mississippi.*

BEST OF

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or Pub, Greatest BBQ, Pizza, Breakfast, Prime Rib, Sandwich, Steak, Chicken, Coffee, Hamburger, Pork Tenderloin, Chicken Wings, Cake or Desserts, Ice Cream, Asian Food, Italian Food, Mexican Food and Greek Food. ■ Greatest People: Bank Teller, Bartender, Server, Teacher, Minister or Pastor, Accountant, Insurance Agent, Interior Designer, Realtor, Attorney, Veterinarian, Financial Advisor, Car Salesman, Stylist and Nail Technician. ■ Greatest Businesses: Place to work, Not-for-profit business, Banquet Facility, Pre-School or Day Care and Funeral Home. ■ Greatest Auto Services: New Car Dealer, Pre-Owned Car Dealer, Auto Repair, Auto Detailing, Car Wash, Oil Change, Towing and Motorcycle Dealer. ■ Greatest Home Services: Air Duct Cleaning, Carpet Cleaner, Electrician, Home Improvement, Landscaping Company, Garden Center, Heating and Cooler, Floor Covering and Plumbing.

■ Greatest Personal Care Services: Dance Lessons or School, Gym or Fitness Facility, Hair Salon, Barber Shop, Martial Arts, Pet Grooming, Nail Salon, Shoe Repair, Tanning Salon, Travel Agency and Tattoo Studio. ■ Greatest Local Shopping: Florist, Book Store, Gift Shop, Supermarket, Shoe Store, Antiques, Appliances, Furniture, Hardware, Jewelry, Liquor or Beer or Wine, Mattresses, Meat Market or Butcher, Pet Store and Pools or Hot Tubs. ■ Greatest Financial Services: Bank, Credit Union, Investment Company, Place To Get a Loan, Place To Get a Mortgage and Place To Get a Car Loan. ■ Greatest Medical Services: Senior Assisted Living Facility, Retirement Center, Hospice, Home Health Care, Rehabilitation Center, Cardiologist, Chiropractor, Nurse, Oncologist, Optometrist, Orthodontist, Pediatrician, Pharmacy, Physical or Occupational Therapist, Podiatrist, Surgeon, Family Doctor, Massage Therapy and Hearing Professional. *Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, may be reached by email at rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com.*

PULSE

From page A1

(800-733-2767) or enable the Blood Donor Skill on any Alexa Echo device to make an appointment or for more information.

Manchester University Homecoming Week continues

Manchester University’s Homecoming Week has been planned through Saturday, Oct. 9. Virtual events have been planned all week and activities on campus have been planned for Saturday, Oct. 9. For more information, visit www.manchester.edu/alumni/events/homecoming/.

Manchester Symphony Orchestra announces 83rd season

The Manchester Symphony Orchestra under Conductor Debra Lynn heads into its 83rd season with four concerts in the works: Invitation to the Dance is Oct. 10, 2021, in Cordier Auditorium on the North Manchester campus of Manchester University. The concert features music from ballet and other works inspired by dance, and it will include Manchester University professors Beate Gilliar and Jim Brumbaugh-Smith dancing to Leroy Anderson’s Blue Tango. Holiday Concert on Dec. 12, 2021, in Cordier features the Carol Symphony by Victor Healy-Hutchinson, Sleigh Ride by Frederick Delius, March Militaire by Franz Schubert and The Skater’s Waltz by Émile Waldteufel. Trailblazers is March 13, 2022, at the Honeywell Center in Wabash, Indiana. It celebrates African-American composer Florence Price and her Symphony No. 1 in E minor. The concert will also feature high school and college winners of the orchestra’s concerto competition. Spaces on May 15, 2022, in Cordier is the final concert of the season, showcasing the world premiere of Lynn’s five-movement concerto titled Spaces, written specifically for guest artist Derek Reeves. He is the principal violist of the Fort Wayne Philharmonic. All concerts are at 3 p.m. on Sundays. Masks and social distancing are required.

Woman’s Clubhouse to hold October luncheon and program

The Woman’s Clubhouse will welcome Dennis Grumpp for their Tuesday, Oct. 12 luncheon and program, according to Ellen Stouffer. Lunch will begin at noon. The MSD retired

teachers will host the program “Bee’ My Honey.” Grumpp will speak on the “contribution of honey bees to our lives,” said Stouffer. For more information, call 260-563-6613 or 619-990-7088.

Frances Slocum Chapter of the DAR to hold October meeting

The Wabash County Frances Slocum Chapter of the Indiana Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 12, at the Grandstaff-Hentgen Activity Room, 1241 Manchester Ave., according to regent Barbara Amiss. The program will be given by Dianne Sedam, northern district director, of Indiana DAR. Prospective members and guests are always welcome to attend. DAR membership is open to any woman 18 years of age, who can prove lineal descent from a patriot of the American Revolution. Those having questions about their family history lineage information may visit www.dar.org or call Tamra Wise at 574-527-2208 or Amiss at 260-982-4376.

Second Harvest to hold tailgate food distributions

Second Harvest Food Bank of East Central Indiana has planned tailgate food distributions for 11 a.m. Wednesday, Oct. 27 at Bachelor Creek Church of Christ, 2147 Indiana 15; and noon Wednesday, Oct. 13 at Manchester Church of the Brethren, 1306 Beckley St., North Manchester. For more information, visit www.curehunger.org, classy.org/campaign/hunger-action-month/c299182 or <https://www.givepulse.com/group/203410>.

Grow Wabash County’s Annual Dinner Celebration set for Thursday, Oct. 14

Grow Wabash County has announced that MPS Egg Farms has been selected as the 2021 Business of the Year and will be honored during Grow Wabash County’s Annual Dinner Celebration from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 14 in Legacy Hall at the Honeywell Center. For more information, visit www.growwabashcounty.com/2021annual dinner, email marketing@growwabashcounty.com or call 260-563-5258.

NMPL plans return of its annual Halloween Party

The North Manchester Public Library (NMPL) is planning a return of their popular annual Halloween

Party from 5 to 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 14. Tacos Los Gordos will be selling a menu of tacos and quesadillas. The outdoor party would be open to every and feature wagon rides, a spooky egg hunt, hand painting, party games and more. Costume categories will include Spookiest, Silliest, Best Duo, Best Baby, Best Group and Best in Show.

Salamonie Forest Preschool underway

Preschool-age children and their adults are invited to Salamonie Forest Preschool from September 2021 through May 2022 for one Tuesday a month or two Tuesdays a month from 9 a.m. to noon at Salamonie Interpretive Center, 3691 New Holland Road, Andrews, in Lost Bridge West State Recreation Area. Classes for the once-a-month option will be held Tuesdays including Nov. 2, 2021; Dec. 7, 2021; Jan. 4, 2022; Feb. 1, 2022; March 1, 2022; April 12, 2022; and May 3, 2022. Classes for the second meeting time each month will also be held Tuesdays including Oct. 19, 2021; Nov. 16, 2021; Dec. 21, 2021; Jan. 18, 2022; Feb. 15, 2022; March 15, 2022; April 26, 2022; and May 17, 2022. Advance registration is required. Register by calling 260-468-2127. For more information, visit dnr.IN.gov/uwis or facebook.com/upperwabash.

Annual Dash in the Bash 5K planned at the Wabash County YMCA

The Wabash County YMCA has announced the Annual Dash in the Bash 5K for Saturday, Oct. 30. Registration is open with early bird pricing of \$25. Sign up online or by stopping by the Member Services Desk at the YMCA. Proceeds benefit the Promise Indiana Wabash County Scholarship Fund. For more information, visit www.wabashcountyyymca.org or email pgodfroy@wabashcountyyymca.org. To make a tax-deductible donation, visit www.wabash-countyyymca.org/support-y/donate or email jdriskill@wabashcountyyymca.org.

Dr. Ford Home announces ‘fun, family-friendly’ event lineup

Honeywell Arts & Entertainment welcomes guests of all ages to Dr. James Ford Historic Home, 177 W. Hill St., for a full schedule of fun, family-friendly events in 2021, including Trick or Treat at the Home during the city of Wabash’s trick-or-treat hours; and Wabash and Erie Canal history program with Jeff Koehler at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 23. For more

information, visit HoneywellArts.org/dr-ford-home.

Salamonie ‘Twins Among the Trees’ Forest School planned

Children ages 6 to 13 are invited to Salamonie Forest Preschool from November 2021 through April 2022 at 3691 New Holland Road, Andrews. The class will be offered one Wednesday a month from 9 a.m. to noon at Salamonie Interpretive Center in Lost Bridge West State Recreation Area, Andrews. Classes will be held on Wednesdays: Nov. 3, 2021; Dec. 8, 2021; Jan. 5, 2022; Feb. 2, 2022; March 2, 2020; and April 20, 2022. The program fee for the package of six sessions is \$60 per child, ages 6 to 13; additional siblings are \$50. Advance registration is required. Limited space is available. Register by calling 260-468-2127. For more information, visit dnr.IN.gov/uwis or facebook.com/upperwabash.

Dick Quigley Music Festival planned for November

The annual Dick Quigley Music Festival has been planned for the first and second weekends in November in Peru. Rob Noftger’s Fascinating Rhythm, sponsored by Peru Maennerchor, has been planned from 4 to 6 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 7 at 154 S. Wabash St., Peru. The event will feature “the usual” carry-in dinner. Combo Night, sponsored by Peru Maennerchor and featuring the No Regrets Blues Band, has been planned for 7 p.m. Friday, Nov. 12 at 154 S. Wabash St., Peru. Big Band Night, featuring the 19-piece Quigley Jazz Band, has been

scheduled for 7 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 13 at the River-view Event Center, 421 W. Canal St., Peru.

Manchester Symphony Orchestra invites entries for concerto competition

In advance of the March 13, 2022 concert, the Manchester Symphony Orchestra invites vocalists, pianists and instrumentalists to register for its 2021-2022 season concerto competition. Competitors must be enrolled in a high school, home school program, college or university during the fall semester of 2021 to be eligible. The application fee is \$25. There are scholarship awards for high school division winners and cash awards for collegiate division winners. The competition is Saturday, Nov. 20, 2021, at Manchester University, and competition winners will perform with the orchestra at 3 p.m. March 13, 2022, during the Trailblazers concert. Tickets are \$15 for general admission. Admission is free for MU students, faculty and staff, as well as anyone age 18 and younger. Visit www.manchestersymphonyorchestra.org to buy tickets or register for the competition.

Manchester Civic Band plans Timbercrest and Peabody live performances

A Manchester Civic Band performance at Peabody Retirement Community has been scheduled for 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 1. This year’s Timbercrest Retirement Community performances have been scheduled for 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 8.

DivorceCare meets Tuesdays

DivorceCare, a 13-week DVD series sponsored by Wabash Friends Counseling Center, features some of the nation’s foremost Christian experts on topics concerning divorce and recovery, according to group leader Janet Quillen. The support group meets at 6:30 p.m. every Tuesday in the Conference Room in the Wabash Friends Counseling Center, 3563 South State Road 13. Wearing a mask is required when entering. Quillen and members of the group meet for dinner at 5:30 p.m. at Subway, 1812 S. Wabash St., on State Road 15. For more information, call 260-563-8453, 877-350-1658, email office@wabashfriends.org, call 260-571-5235 or visit www.divorcecare.org.

Wabash County Animal Shelter partnership to pair emerging readers with dogs, cats

The local Literacy for Companionship program will be held on the third Thursday of each month at the Wabash County Animal Shelter, 810 Manchester Ave. The time will be split into 30-minute shifts from 4 to 6 p.m., with four children scheduled per session. There is no cost for the program and the parents or guardians will be with the children at all times. For more information, call 260-563-3511.

Editor’s note: If you have an upcoming event to submit, please send it by email to news@wabashplaindealer.com no later than five days before the event itself. Please use complete sentences, Associated Press style and Microsoft Word or PDF file formats.

NOMINATE NOW!

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Wabash girls basketball poised for another successful season

Apaches will open the season at home Wednesday, Nov. 3 against Taylor

By CLAY MAXFIELD

Wabash Plain Dealer
Freelance Reporter

Wabash's varsity girls basketball team is ready to reload this upcoming season and continue their dominant presence in the Three Rivers Conference.

While the Apaches finished the previous season with an overall record of 15-7 despite being ousted in the first round to sectional champ, Rochester High School (46-40), they rolled into their first round of tourney play on the heels of a seven-game win streak.

This same dominance is something that Wabash head coach Matt Stone is anticipating in a season that he noted will be one ripe with change.

"When you lose that many seniors and you're changing the way your team plays, it's exciting to see if you can do it," Stone said. "If those kids can come back and play a different way and keep up the good play. ... We've got some kids who've played a lot so it's nice to see if they can change their role and keep that going."

"It's always good to see kids adapt when you make that change and continue your success."

Last season, the Apaches graduated six seniors including their two offensive leaders in Mariah Wyatt (12.3



Photo by Bridget Nash / Plain Dealer

Wabash's varsity girls basketball team is ready to reload this upcoming season and continue their dominant presence in the Three Rivers Conference.

ppg) and Alivia Short (11.8 ppg). The aforementioned also led the team in rebounds with Wyatt pulling down a team and conference-high 12 boards per contest.

Wyatt and Short were both named to all-conference teams from their sophomore season through their senior seasons.

With an absence in post presence this season, Stone will look for a combination of Linda Cordes, Brooke Westendorf, Jade Stumbo, Kierra Wilson and Kasey Long to step up and fill the void of Wyatt and Short.

While the five bigs made up of juniors and seniors are in for a heavy workload in terms of making up the deficit of a

year prior, Stone is confident they are up for the task.

"Those girls as a group will have to make up for those two and that's all you ask of them. Can we get all of them to make up for those 17 or 18 rebounds? Can we get all of them to make up for what we lost from them? ... When you spread out, maybe we can come close. We need that group to do what those two did for us," Stone said.

In terms of guard play, Wabash will look to Libby Matern and Rylee Yoakum to run the offense as both return with the most experience from a year prior. Matern and Yoakum combined for nearly 12 points per game last season as well as close to six assists

a game.

A key component that Stone believes has sustained success for Wabash is their presence of two- and three-sport athletes that have made up their teams throughout the years including this current season where the Apaches have had all but one player involved in a fall sport.

"We have kids that are involved in a lot of things and I think that helps. I think it makes you well-rounded and it gives you a break and you come back and you want to play basketball. I think it's made our program the better for it. ... It's made the whole athletic department successful.

Going into his 8th season as the Apaches' head coach, Stone has led his team to five winning seasons and credits the success Wabash has had as a program-wide influence.

"It's not me, it's the program," Stone said. "We're going on 20 years of success where our worst season is still winning nine or 10 games. ... We've done a great job with our program. My JV coach has been with our girls for 19 years between JV and eighth grade. We have a lot of ex-players who help us and who've been in the program."

"It's kept the program rolling. It's a good place to be in when a program has been successful for that long."

Wabash will open the season at home Wednesday, Nov. 3 against Taylor High School.

Clay Maxfield, Wabash Plain Dealer freelance reporter, may be reached by email at sports@wabashplainedealer.com.



Provided photo

Halle Planck, from Gas City and Mississinewa High School, had six kills.

MU drops HCAC opener at Hanover

By DILLON BENDER

The Manchester University volleyball team saw its four-game win streak snapped on Friday night as the Spartans fell on the road in straight sets at Hanover College to begin Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference (HCAC) play.

The Panthers took Friday's contest following set scores of 25-14, 25-19 and 25-22.

Sara Shultz, from Churubusco and East Noble High School, and Halle Planck, from Gas City and Mississinewa High School, led Manchester with seven and six kills, respectively. Shultz added a pair of solo blocks

and one block assist. Planck had one solo block and a pair of block assists.

Helaina Walters, from Marion and Eastbrook High School, had 10 digs in Friday's contest, while Carly Ripberger, from Tipton, led Manchester with 18 assists.

A trio of Panthers finished in double figures in kills as Hanover hit .222 in the match.

The Spartans (8-8, 0-1 HCAC) will host Bluffton University in Stauffer-Wolfe Arena beginning at 6 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 6.

Dillon Bender is the sports information director for Manchester University.

County CC runners fare well at TRC meet

By ROY CHURCH

AKRON — Without two of their top seven runners, Wabash finished third at the Three Rivers Conference (TRC) cross country championships, missing a chance at five straight titles.

However, sophomore Kaden Vogel of Wabash was runner-up to Maconaquah's Isaiah Wittenberg for the individual crown and Manchester junior Raven King was third. The winner finished in 16:46.6, just 10 seconds ahead of Vogel (16:56.1).

King came in at 17:25.78, helping Manchester take second place in the team standings. Rochester won the team title with 44 points, followed by the Squires (64), Wabash (67), Northfield in fifth place (138) and Southwood seventh (148).

Manchester took three of the top 11 places. Cade Jones was ninth in 18:10.31 and Lane Stetzel was 11th in 18:16.06.

After Vogel for the Apaches were Jace Bullins, 13th in 18:17.06; Jonas Church, 15th in 18:33.13; Chase Howard, 16th in 18:38.55, and Nick Perkins, 22nd in 19:26.51. Bullins, Church and Howard are freshmen. Wabash was without the services of Dave Ford and Eli Callahan.

Other Apache finishers were Brayden French, 27th in 19:54.35; Kamden Oswalt, 33rd in 20:34.98; Ethan Berry, 40th in 21:18.85; Kristian Stanton, 49th in 22:07.17, and Braxten Lakin, 50th in 22:11.01.

"Hats off to Rochester and Manchester," Wabash head coach Ryan Evans said. "Their guys ran great, controlled races."

"I am proud of Kaden and how he raced up front with the runner from Maconaquah."

Manchester's top-11 trio was followed by Jacob Hesting, 18th in 18:52.15; Caden Marcum, 24th in 19:47.32; Caleb Smith, 26th in 19:52.78, and Kenneth Martin, 61st in 31:11.73.

Layne Denton led the Northfield contingent, finishing 17th in 18:46.35. He was followed by Karson Pratt, 25th in 19:52.41; Kamden Carpenter, 30th in 20:13.49; Ryan Brunett, 36th in 20:51.27; John Nessler, 39th in 21:18.85, and Alex Reed,

43rd in 21:43.97.

Southwood's Casey Boardman finished 14th in 18:29.23 and was followed by Luke Andrews, 29th in 20:11.68; Jacob Marlow, 31st in 20:19.39; Landon Mitchell, 38th in 21:13.2, and Devin Danzy, 54th in 22:30.8.

In the girls event, Manchester finished third and Northfield fourth in a five-team race. The other five schools, including Wabash, did not have complete teams.

Rochester won the event with 35 points, Maconaquah was runner-up with 44 and the Lady Squires had 46 in a very tight race. Northfield had 96 points.

Manchester took fourth, fifth and sixth places in the individual standings with Kadence Fox (20:47.99), Ayla Cashdollar (20:57.52) and Josie Briner (21:13.28), respectively. Kambree Cashdollar was 12th in 22:31.75 and Evyn Fox was 23rd in 23:46.45.

Other Manchester runners were Miriam Struble-Hedstrom, 24th in 23:49.47; Paulie Martin, 27th in 24:11.41, and Ainsley West, 28th in 24:30.74.

The Lady Norse was led by Mara Zolman, 17th in 23:10.75, and Trinity Beaver, 18th in 23:20.71. Ella Gahl was 21st in 23:25.89, Madeline Moore was 25th in 23:59.65 and Asia Miller was 30th in 24:54.07.

Also running for Northfield were Anna Kissel, 36th in 26:08.07, and Natalie Keller, 47th in 33:17.31.

Wabash's Cali Kugler was 20th in a career-best 23:23.69, Ivy Beamer was 31st in 24:58.77 and Grace La Mar was 37th in 26:31.54.

Southwood was not represented.

Northfield, Southwood and Wabash will compete Saturday in the IHSAA's Marion sectional meet at Indiana Wesleyan University along with Blackford, Eastbrook, Huntington North, Madison-Grant, Marion, Mississinewa, Oak Hill and Southem Wells. The meet begins at 10 a.m.

Manchester will host its own sectional at 10:30 a.m. Also coming are Argos, Caston, Culver Academies, Culver Community, North Miami, Plymouth, Rochester, Tippecanoe Valley, Triton and Warsaw.

WMS boys CC season ends with RRC win

By ROY CHURCH

AKRON — For the third year in a row, the Wabash Middle School boys cross country team captured the Running Rivers Conference (RRC) crown at Tippecanoe Valley High School here Saturday.

The Apaches began their season by winning the Wabash County Jr. High Championship and ended the season with another easy victory over nine other schools. Their top five runners took second through sixth place to finish with 20 points.

In between those two titles, Wabash won the Penn, Indiana Wesleyan University and Wabash invites and was runner-up at the West Noble Invite and State Preview Meet in Terre Haute.

The only person ruining the shutout was Manchester's Trey Howard, the two-time county champion, who was runner-up last year at the RRC meet but won this year as an eighth-grader. His winning time was 10:44.75.

Wabash won last year's meet with 21 points.

For the Apaches it was Isaiah Cordes in second place (10:52.18), Drew Guenin-Hodson third (11:00.52), Bobby Shull fourth (11:12.47), Ezra

Church fifth (11:18.04) and Caidan Burchett sixth (11:22.36). The first three finishers and Burchett are eighth-graders running their final race. Church is in seventh grade.

Also finishing for Wabash was Kamden Oswalt in 10th (11:54.92), Coleson Kugler in 11th (12:1'8.93), Matt Niles in 18th (12:38.55), Jay French in 20th (12:41.65), Raven Weaver in 21st (12:42.08) and Maverick Sommers in 47th (14:43.07).

"I am privileged to have such a great group of boys to work with," head coach Ryan Evans said. "The core of this eighth-grade group has been running since fifth and sixth grades. Throughout the years they have brought new kids to the team who have also enjoyed the sport. Their impact will be missed but they're moving onto bigger things next year."

Behind Howard for the Squires were Wyatt Schroll, 12th in 12:20.24; Oliver Fitzpatrick, 15th in 12:33.17; Clark Showalter, 16th in 12:36.08; Everett Short, 51st in 15:17.8, and Ezra Hendricks, 53rd in 15:44.41, in the 71-man field.

Northfield's Tate Barlow finished seventh in 11:28.92, Eli Gahl was 17th in 12:38.17, Wyatt Bucher was 19th in

12:40.86, Holten Satterthwaite was 26th in 13:16.57 and Kourt Pratt was 29th in 13:22.77.

Rounding out the field for the Norse were Preston Moore, 30th in 13:24.46; Ethan Hoover, 32nd in 13:41.48; Ty Leming, 36th in 13:49.96; Xavier Roark, 44th in 14:32.14; Nate Hodson, 46th in 14:41.88; Gavin Lester, 48th in 14:54.53, and Landon Mast, 49th in 15:03.09.

Southwood's top finisher was Zander Chellis, 28th in 13:19.52. He was followed by Andrew Wright, 41st in 14:02.40, and Luc Neal, 45th in 14:37.79.

The Wabash Middle School girls finished second, improving on last year's fourth-place showing. Maconaquah repeated as champion with 27 points to Wabash's 81. The Lady Apaches nipped Northfield by one point and Manchester finished seventh (138).

Wabash had its five scorers between 14th and 21st places. Chloe Cooper led the way in 14th place with a career-best 13:52.07 and Raegan Jones was 15th with a season-best 13:52.28. Ava Bishir was 18th with a career-best 14:05, Quinn Myers was 19th with a career-best 14:08 and Rinka Higuera was 21st in 14:10.

Other Wabash finishers were

Mallory Tart, 27th in 14:38; Haylee Friend, 28th in 14:40; Caitlyn Shidler, 38th in 15:25; Bridget Bailey, 43rd in 15:38; Maya Howard, 46th in 16:13; Mia Fairchild, 47th in 16:22; and Audri Shidler, 52nd in 16:56.

Bailey, Bishir, Friend, Howard and Jones are eighth-graders running their last middle school race.

Maconaquah's Chloe Jordan won the event in 12:22.95.

Wabash County teams took four of the top 10 places in the girls event. Northfield's Laney Hauptert was second and Kaleigh Rice third in 12:31.09 and 12:36.62, respectively. Southwood's Shelby Thomas was seventh in 13:11.06 and Manchester's Rachel Steely was ninth in 13:26.38.

Behind Hauptert and Rice were Teagan Baer, 13th in 13:50.45; Ali Copeland, 30th in 14:49.68, and Amarah Bowers, 44th in 15:38.55.

Steely was followed by Maggie Akins, 22nd in 14:18.99; Kaylee Fetters, 33rd in 15:01.29; Shelby Cahill, 50th in 16:47.07; Bronwyn Harris, 53rd in 16:58.15; Makayla Marcum, 56th in 18:02.02; Kelzei Fox, 58th in 21:07.83, and Avery Akins, 59th in 21:29.38.

Southwood's other finisher was Olivia Ranck, 24th in 14:25.53.

NORTHFIELD FOOTBALL DEFEATS ROCHESTER



LEFT: Jake Halderman pitches the ball back to a teammate during Friday's game against Rochester. Northfield won 28-21 on a Halderman pass to Jaxton Peas. **MIDDLE:** Jaxton Peas celebrates after catching a wide open pass for Northfield to win Friday's game against Rochester. **RIGHT:** Jaxton Peas runs for a first down for the Northfield Norsemen during Friday's game against Rochester.



Photos by Patrick Murphy / Rochester Sentinel

Daughter’s romantic relationship choices disappoint mom

DEAR ABBY: I have a 23-year-old daughter, “Julia,” who I am close with. She has been in a relationship with “Joey,” a guy her age, for four years and living with him for the last 16 months. Joey’s a great kid who hasn’t had a lot of support in his life. I have been like a mother to him, and we are very close. He works hard, earned a college degree and plans on a career in law enforcement. I love him like my own.

The issue is, Julia has been working a part-time evening job. She works with a man I’ll call “Nick,” who is 10 years older and has a child. She has started having an affair with him. She claims to love Joey but is “torn” because she’s bored and wants to “have fun.” I am upset and devastated.

From the sound of him, Nick doesn’t have many great qualities. I believe she’s making a grave mistake and risks losing a great future. I have tried getting her to see it, but I don’t think I’m getting through. Should I continue or back off and see what happens? I feel like I am betraying Joey because I know about this. – Torn-Apart Mom

DEAR MOM: As much as you might wish to, you cannot live Julia’s life for her. From your description of your daughter, she’s not ready for marriage or even a permanent commitment. Joey may be the catch of a lifetime, but if she can’t appreciate him and the life he has to offer, he isn’t the man for her. Step back and allow her to make her own mistakes, because that’s how people learn. And when the truth comes out, tell Joey how sorry you are that things turned out the way they did and that you will always love him like a son.

DEAR ABBY: I’m a 50-year-old woman, and this is the second time my dad has mentioned that he and Mom thought about aborting me before I was born. He qualifies this statement by exclaiming, “I just called to let you know I’m so GLAD your mother and I didn’t go through with the abortion, and how HAPPY I am that you are here.” The thing is, until he said it, I never knew it had crossed their minds.

He knew his statement upset me, yet he brought it up again tonight in a phone call, with even more disturbing information – that they had even gone to a doctor to get it done! He uses subtle ways to sneak the new information in, even though he knows it’s hurtful. What is his motive? What does he want? Why does he do this? – Perplexed In Alabama

DEAR PERPLEXED: Saying something one knows is hurtful is cruel. If you haven’t discussed this bizarre scenario with your mother, you should. Could dear old Dad be losing it? Is he seeking gratitude from you? Was he drunk when he made the call? His behavior is so far from normal I can’t imagine why he would say such a thing TWICE. Because he may be trying to get a rise out of you, consider deflecting with humor or sarcasm or simply hanging up.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Dear Abby



CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Outshine
4 Expert pilot
7 Ladder type
11 Teahouse attire
12 Mashed potato serving
14 Antacid brand
15 So far
16 Asian princess
17 Sleeve fillers
18 Computer network
20 Like some milk
22 Agt.
23 Fast food chain
24 Lavish parties
27 Beat
30 Styptic
31 Leak giveaway
32 Channels 2-13
34 Some, to Yvette
35 Least of the litter
36 Hi or bye
37 Hymn-singing groups

DOWN

1 Playthings
2 Follow orders
3 Sets against
4 Thinks the same
5 Gripping device

ACROSS

39 Waste maker?
40 Explain further
41 Sports “zebra”
42 Soft color
45 Gazing at
49 Linchpin locale
50 Online auction site
52 Caesar’s lucky number?
53 Bard’s tragic king
54 Extinct bird
55 Visitor from Melmac
56 Shade trees
57 Provo inst.
58 Volleyball need

DOWN

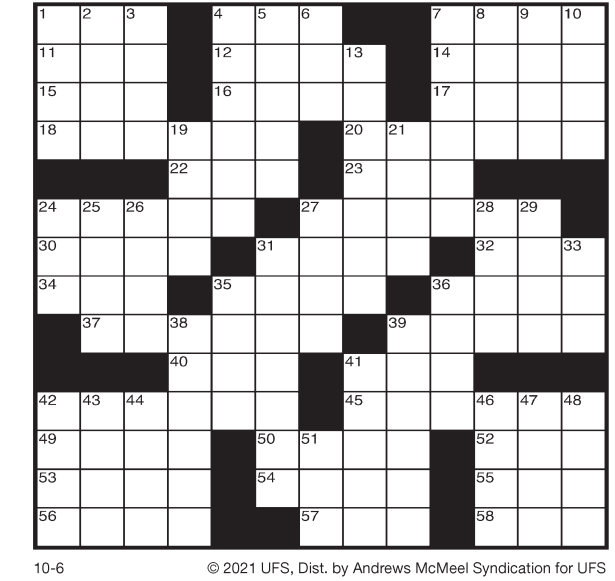
6 Many millennia
7 Attitude
8 Lawn
9 Ms. Peel of “The Avengers”
10 “Hey, you!”
13 Most embarrassed
19 Bloke’s streetcar
21 Switch positions
24 Ramble around
25 Guinness or Baldwin
26 Sumptuous
27 Rackets
28 “We try harder” folk

ACROSS

29 Not this
31 Took a fence
33 Ally
35 Carnival attraction
36 Bistro
38 Wayne genre
39 “Yo!” (2 wds.)
41 All set
42 Whey-faced
43 Eddie Murphy’s Foley
44 Door sound
46 Czar name
47 Giza’s river
48 Present
51 Mr. Newhart

Answer to Previous Puzzle

| | | | | | |
|--------|--------|-------|------|------|--|
| OWE | | COG | | MYNA | |
| MIL | | SARA | | IOUS | |
| ANA | | HUBS | | RUTH | |
| RENTAL | | PLANT | | | |
| | IRK | | EGGY | | |
| PROMO | | PAGE | | | |
| HOW | NORM | SINK | | | |
| IONS | NATO | MIA | | | |
| | POSY | REPLY | | | |
| QUID | TAB | | | | |
| UNDER | ALBUMS | | | | |
| BASE | EVIL | LOU | | | |
| USER | BONY | NOM | | | |
| SIRS | ANT | AGO | | | |



SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ☆☆☆☆☆

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 9 | | | 5 | 1 | | 4 |
| | | 2 | | 4 | 9 | 6 | 8 |
| 4 | | 8 | | 1 | | 9 | |
| 9 | | | | 5 | 6 | | |
| | 2 | | | 8 | | | 1 |
| | | | 2 | 3 | | | 9 |
| | | 6 | | 7 | | 8 | 2 |
| | 8 | 9 | 5 | 2 | | 7 | |
| 2 | | 4 | 6 | | | | 5 |

10/6

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How to play: Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9.

PREVIOUS SOLUTION

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 5 | 8 | 3 | 9 | 2 | 1 | 7 | 6 | 4 |
| 6 | 2 | 7 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 9 | 8 | 1 |
| 4 | 9 | 1 | 8 | 7 | 6 | 3 | 5 | 2 |
| 9 | 4 | 6 | 5 | 3 | 8 | 1 | 2 | 7 |
| 3 | 7 | 5 | 6 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 9 | 8 |
| 2 | 1 | 8 | 7 | 9 | 4 | 6 | 3 | 5 |
| 1 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 9 | 8 | 7 | 6 |
| 7 | 6 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 3 | 5 | 1 | 9 |
| 8 | 5 | 9 | 1 | 6 | 7 | 2 | 4 | 3 |

JUMBLE

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

GUSRH

RPUEP

RRMPIE

MAIFYN

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Print your answer here: “ ”

Answer: “ ”

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

How did you get so smart?
She’s a genius!
Aloha! Ni hao! Bonjour! Hola!

AFTER LEARNING HOW TO SAY “HELLO” IN FOUR LANGUAGES, HER PARENTS GAVE HER ---

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers tomorrow)

Unity Pencil Buffet

Answer: When the mountain climbers chatted, they talked about what they’d — BEEN UP TO

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane

“Thank you, door!”

10-6

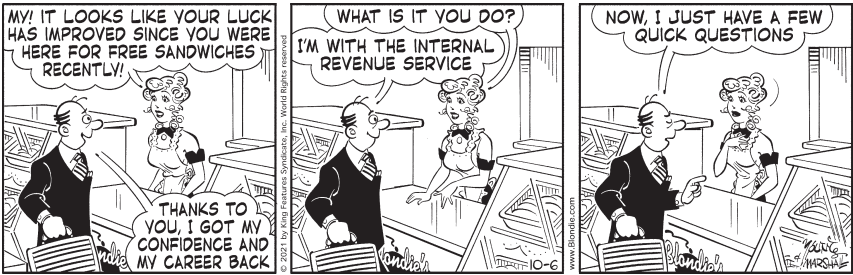
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Bil and Jeff Keane

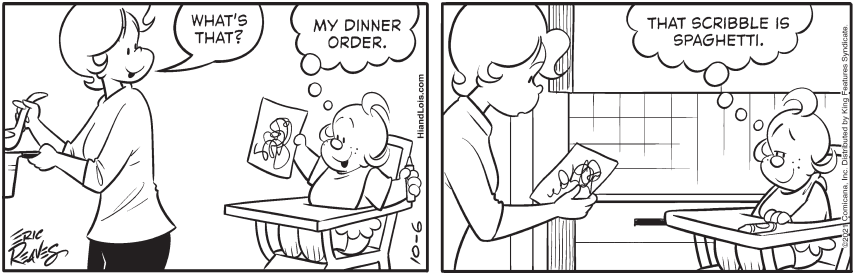
BEEBLE BAILEY



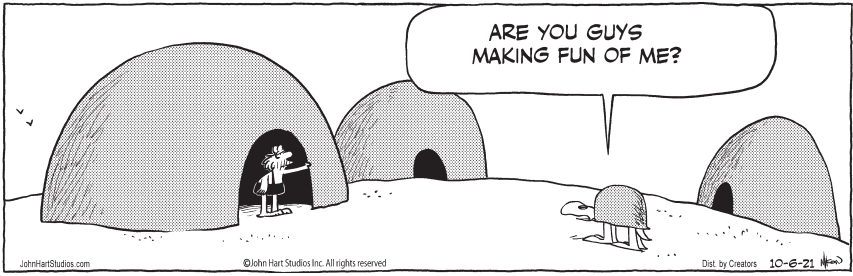
BLONDIE



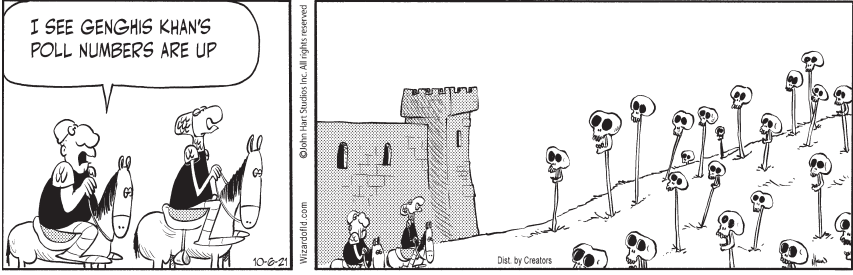
HI & LOIS



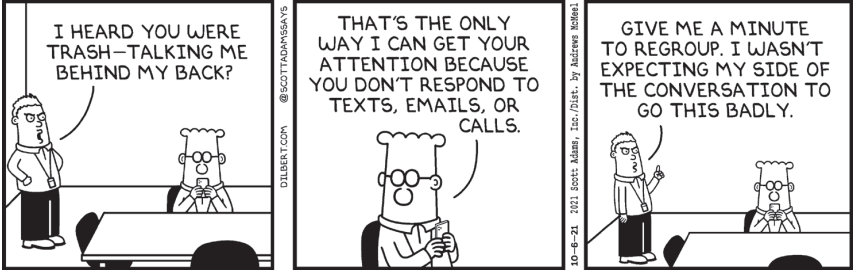
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WIZARD OF ID



DILBERT



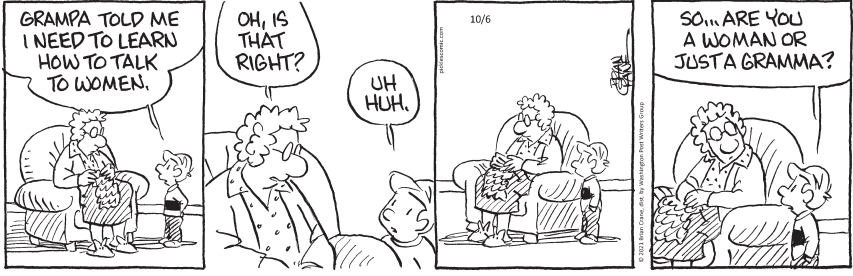
GARFIELD



FORT KNOX



PICKLES

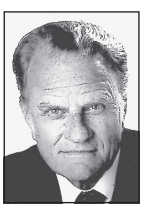


The Bible speaks of having a pure conscience

From the writings of the Rev. Billy Graham

Q: My grandmother is always telling me that if I make the wrong choice in life my conscience is going to always be looking over my shoulder. She knows a lot about the Bible but she said it was up to me to find it. Does the Bible really say something about a person’s conscience? – W.G.

Billy Graham
My Answer



A: The Bible is God’s textbook of revelation and speaks of having a pure conscience (1 Timothy 3:9). This is only possible when our minds are surrendered to the Lord and when we put into practice His commands and promises.

In God’s great classroom there is an expansive library called Scripture. It speaks of nature and conscience and says God’s law is “written in

their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and between themselves their thoughts accusing or else excusing them” (Romans 2:15). It is so wonderful to think that God actually speaks to warn us when we are wrong, and to bless us when we do right. This may be a “still small voice” that will not let us go until we settle in our hearts what is right according to Him. We must never silence that inner voice – but always check what we believe according to God’s Word.

Conscience is the detective

that watches the direction of our steps and decries every conscious transgression. It is a vigilant eye before which each imagination, thought, and act is held up for either censure or approval. There is no greater proof of the existence of moral law and the Lawgiver in the universe than this little light of the soul.

And we must remember that the human conscience is reliable only when it is guided by the Holy Spirit. This is a blessed gift that He gives to those who love and obey Him.

CELEBRITY CIPHER

by Luis Campos

Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another.

“BUAD Z BCK C WZF, Z XZWAF
KPNAV GCD. BUAD Z JEM C XZMMXA
EXFAY, Z XZWAF BEXSAYZDA.
CDF MUAD Z VEPDF JZYXK.”
— HAYAGT KZKME

Previous Solution: “The acceptance of death gives you more of a stake in life, in living life happily, as it should be lived.” — Sting

TODAY’S CLUE: r sjenbe H

Opinion

SPEAK UP

How to contact your legislators:

U.S. Sen. Todd Young, R-Ind.
B33 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
1-202-224-5623
http://young.senate.gov/contact

U.S. Sen. Mike Braun, R-Ind.
B85 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
202-224-4814
http://braun.senate.gov/

U.S. Rep. Jackie Walorski, R-District 2
419 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515
202-225-3915

State Sen. Andy Zay, R-District 17
Indiana Senate
200 W. Washington St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204
1-800-382-9467
Senator.Zay@iga.in.gov

State Rep. Craig Snow, R-District 18
Indiana House
200 W. Washington St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204
1-800-382-9841
h18@in.gov

To email any Indiana lawmaker, go to this website:
www.in.gov/cgi-bin/legislative/contact/contact.pl

LETTERS GUIDELINES

The Wabash Plain Dealer encourages your letters to the editor forum, which is designed to be a forum for exchange of ideas between readers about issues of community importance.

Please sign your letter. Your name will be used with the letter that is published in the Plain Dealer. Your letter will be returned if it is your desire to remain anonymous.

Since we may want to write or call you to verify the letter, we ask that you include your address and telephone number. All our letters to the editor are published in the interest of fair play, so we trust our letter writers will refrain from personal attacks on other persons or groups.

A letter should be less than two pages long, preferably of double-spaced typing.

In order to give everyone an opportunity to participate in this exchange of ideas, please try to limit your letters to one per month per household.

To submit a letter, please write the Wabash Plain Dealer at 99 W. Canal St., Wabash, IN 46992.

Letters also may be hand-delivered to the newspaper office, 99 W. Canal St. The office is open 9-11:30 a.m. and 1-4 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you should deliver a letter during non-business hours, a drop slot is located to the left of the front door. Letters may be faxed to 260-563-0816, or email them to news@wabashplainealer.com with "Letters to the Editor" in the subject line.

DAILY SCRIPTURE

Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name.

Hebrews 13:15

Huntington Beach shore: Why the U.S. needs to end coastal drilling

The Orange County coastline has become the latest casualty of the nation's unhealthy dependence on oil. In one of the biggest California spills in decades, a pipeline connected to an offshoot oil platform off the coast of Huntington Beach released at least 126,000 gallons of crude over the weekend.

By Sunday morning, the smell of diesel and tar hovered in the coastal air as clumps of crude washed ashore, along with dead birds and fish. Out on the water, a vast oil slick larger than city of Santa Monica had formed. And crews worked feverishly to clean up the oil that had seeped into the delicate coastal marshlands and to prevent greater damage to this essential habitat for migratory birds. Orange County officials estimate that the affected beaches could be closed for weeks or even months.

This is why the U.S. needs to end coastal oil drilling.

Some 23 oil and gas drilling platforms are in federal waters off the California coastline. This spill originated from a platform called Elly, which was installed in 1980. Elly sits above a large reservoir of

oil, in waters overseen by the U.S. Department of the Interior. Environmentalists have long warned that aging oil facilities off the coast pose a serious risk, with one activist calling them "time bombs."

New drilling permits haven't been issued since 1980s, but that almost changed under former President Trump. His administration sought to open all federal waters off the U.S. coastline to oil and natural gas exploration. The backlash from states was swift. Trump reversed course and proposed expanding bans on off-shore drilling in select federal waters.

California Sen. Dianne Feinstein proposed a bill in January that would permanently bar the federal government from allowing new leases to allow for the exploration, development or production of oil or natural gas off the coast of California, Oregon and Washington state.

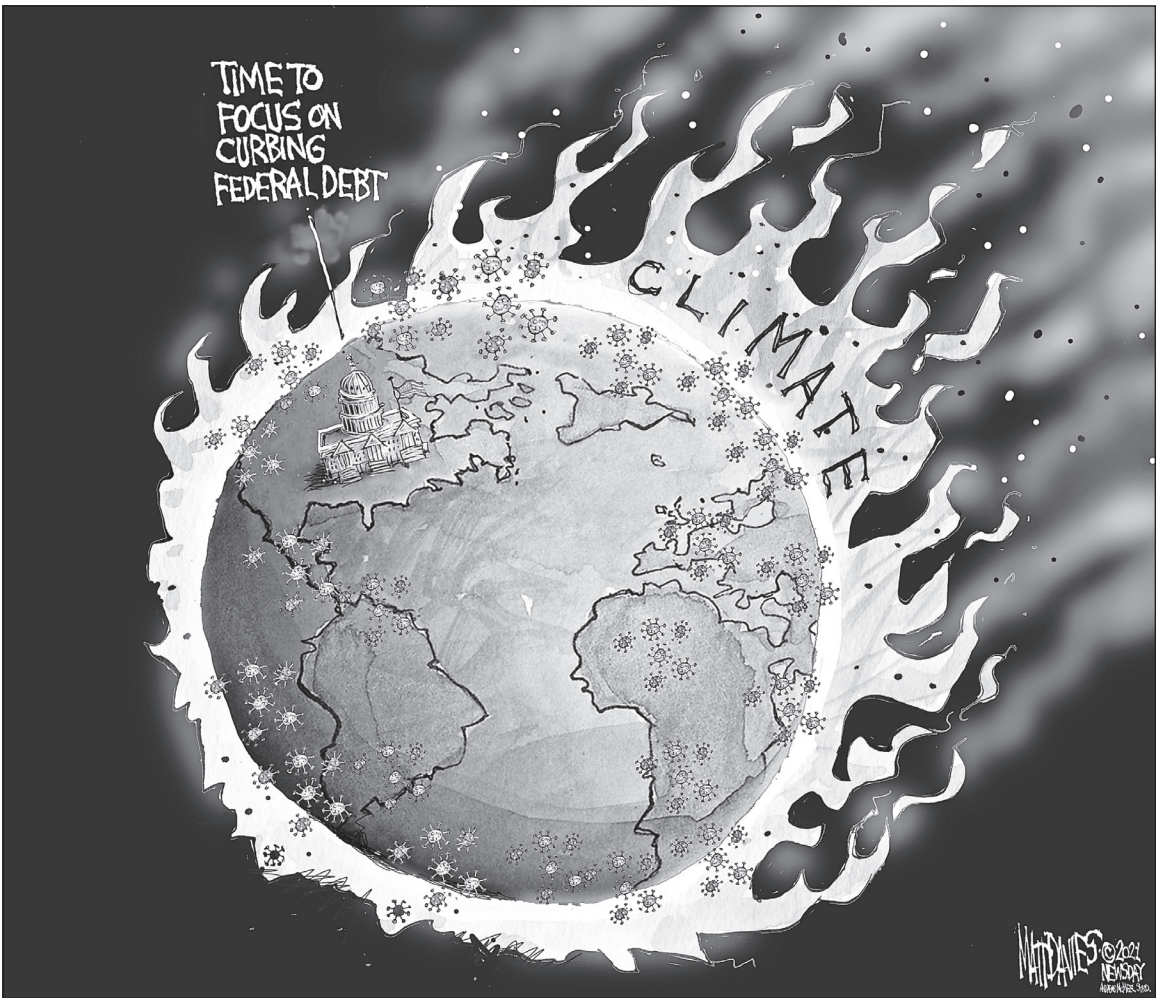
It's not hard to understand why states don't want to see more drilling off the coast. Local economies are dependent on tourism, commercial and recreational fishing, leisure boating and other activities that benefit from clean, healthy coast-

al waters. In Huntington Beach, officials had to cancel the final day of the three-day Pacific Airshow, which draws thousands of people to watch flyovers by the U.S. Navy Blue Angels and other jets.

While large-scale spills are somewhat rare in California, they can be devastating when they occur. In 2015, a pipeline along U.S. 101 broke and sent more than 100,000 gallons of oil into the nearby coast. Some 204 birds and 106 marine mammals died as a result of the spill, and Refugio State Beach was closed for two months while workers tried to remove the oil. Spills at sea are exceedingly more difficult to clean up than those on land, and the oil they unleash spreads with the currents. We already know the U.S. needs to wean itself off oil and gas to help the planet avoid the worst impacts of climate change.

This spill illustrates that the threat to the coastal environment isn't just hypothetical and that we need to move much faster to phase out coastal oil drilling.

This editorial was first published in the Los Angeles Times.



Coveting: America's favorite deadly sin

By MARK FRANKE

I attended a Lutheran elementary school, grades one through eight, back during the Eisenhower and Kennedy administrations. It was a traditional education with a lot of memorization – presidents, state capitals, books of the Bible and so forth. I still can recite those lists but it gets tougher with each passing year.

The key to our memory work, as we called it back then, was the Small Catechism written by Martin Luther as an aid for fathers to teach their children. It was organized around what are called the chief parts of the faith such as the Lord's Prayer, the Apostles' Creed and the Ten Commandments. In addition to the historic text of these doctrinal statements, Luther wrote simple explanations that could be memorized ... of course ... and recited upon request. And trust me, we were requested to daily.

What gave me the most problems back then were the two commandments on coveting. We Lutherans split coveting into two commandments for some reason I never knew. Graven images were out; coveting was doubled down. I didn't even know what coveting was and I had to memorize two separate commandments and their explanations.

These days I am a volunteer at the Lutheran school my grandchildren attend and memory work is still emphasized, so much so that it is part of daily chapel. Last week it was the Ninth and Tenth commandments, the coveting ones, so as I sat in chapel I recited them and their meanings with 100 plus children.

I got some of the words wrong but, in my defense, the vocabulary has been modernized. For example

we now are instructed not to covet our neighbor's donkey rather than his ass. Not all modernization is bad.

One aspect of Luther's theological genius is that he taught the commandments as more than "thou shalt nots," interpreting the commandments through the positive actions God demands. So with the donkey in question, we are told not to entice it away from our neighbor but urge it to stay and do its duty. Be assured; if my neighbor ever gets a donkey, I definitely will urge it to stay and do its duty.

Maybe I didn't understand coveting during my formative years, but I certainly do now. Just follow the news. The underlying motivation for the "tax the rich" political agenda is based on covetousness. They have something they don't deserve and we want it. Rather than be joyful about my neighbor's good fortune, I am told that it rightfully belongs to me.

It is no longer a simple matter of keeping up with the Joneses; it has devolved to resenting what the Joneses have and believing that you are more deserving of it. In a word: coveting.

Having sat in chapel reciting with the school children, I could not help but reflect on how covetousness has become the invidious foundation of our culture. My thoughts then went from there to our political environment.

Why is it that one of our major political parties has built an economic agenda with coveting as the underlying principle? Is it to motivate the voters by appealing to their baser instincts? And why does the other major political party have such difficulty in explaining its economic agenda in simple terms and supporting it with all the

objective data that make its case? Must emotion trump data?

It is easy to blame the career politicians for our dysfunctional system but we need to remember that we voted for them, at least a majority of us did in each individual case. We can blame the national media for its deliberate distortions and lack of journalistic professionalism but then we keep tuning in, increasing their ratings and their ability to sell advertising.

They appeal to our covetous natures because it works for them, to get elected or to sell merchandise. The Ten Commandments and the church's seven deadly sins included covetousness because it is an all too prevalent part of human nature. That lesson is not lost on our political and media elites.

Even Aesop understood this. Recall his fable of the dog with the bone in its mouth which saw its reflection in the stream and thought it was another dog with a bigger bone.

Coveting did not lead to happy endings in Aesop's day nor will it in ours. Yet we as a nation seem unwilling or incapable of being led by the better part of our nature.

I am being unfair, in at least one respect. God did not ordain the commandments just so we could judge others. He meant them to be personal for each of us. So I better look inwardly at my propensity to covet that which is not mine.

Fortunately for me, another of the deadly sins is sloth. My defense is that I am too lazy to covet. Do you think St. Peter will buy that excuse at the pearly gates?

Mark Franke, M.B.A., an adjunct scholar of the Indiana Policy Review and its book reviewer, is formerly an associate vice-chancellor at Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne.

The public's right to be heard

At the conclusion of a recent Allen County Commission meeting, the commission president became annoyed with a woman who refused to shut up when her allotted time expired under the public speaking rules. He warned her that people not following the rules risked having no public comment at all.

"Local government boards," the newspaper article chronicling the meeting gently reminded its readers, "are not legally obligated to allow public comments at meetings."

Too true, and a lot of Indiana government units are flirting with the idea of blessed silence at meetings, including Northwest Allen's and other school boards. "The public" is just a polite term for a bunch of ignorant whiners and ill-informed complainers. Letting them run off at the mouth just slows things down and gums up the works.

Those inclined to complain would probably get little understanding from the Indiana General Assembly, which hammers out the details of major legislation in private meetings of the GOP super majority, letting the public see the result at the same time as the hapless Democratic mini minority.

Nor would they find a sympathetic ear in Congress, whose speaker seems proud of the fact that the public can learn what is in bills running thousands of pages only after the bills become law. Got a comment – oops, too late.

It's the spirit of the age, isn't it? On college campuses, professors can be fired for having the wrong opinion, and there are safe spaces where any opinion that makes any student uncomfortable is forbidden. Facebook and Twitter monitor their users for unorthodox opinions on everything from COVID to climate change and transgenderism, and even the president of the United States can be banned.

As someone who has spent a lifetime both offering and combating opinions, who has always believed that a good, healthy argument is the surest path to the truth, I find this all more than a little distressing.

It was Daniel Patrick Moynihan, in a 1983 column in the Washington Post, who observed that "everyone is entitled to his own opinion but not to his own facts."

It seemed so clear then. Opinions were good or bad, based on the accuracy of the facts under-girding them and our evaluations of their significance, and in debating them, we discarded bits of misconception and glimpsed pieces of the truth.

Today, the line between facts and opinion is deliberately blurred by those who think they already know the truth and have the right, even the obligation, to shout down those who don't accept it. And I wonder if those who applaud that reality have considered where we might be headed.

Moynihan, some will recall, though a Democrat and a firebrand liberal in many ways, was also a contrarian who for a time served in the administration of Richard Nixon. You remember Nixon. His appeals to the "silent majority" of Americans whose voices were never heard won him the presidency.

And it turns out he wasn't the first. In 1919, ad executive and Republican Party supporter Bruce Barton wrote in Collier magazine of Calvin Coolidge's presidential run: "It sometimes seems as if this great silent majority had no spokesman. But Coolidge belongs with that crowd: he lives like them, he works like them, and understands."

I still believe that airing all the opinions is the best way to elevate the discussion. That's how the country got started and why we have the First Amendment, because the Founders believed that "from many voices," truth emerged.

Do you think otherwise?

If you think Coolidge was a lousy president, and you think Richard Nixon was nothing but a crook, do you still believe ignoring a wide swatch of the American people was a good idea? How about Donald Trump? His constituents felt that the ruling elite not only refused to listen to them but held them in utter contempt.

You think they're not still out there? Perhaps when they get a chance to speak up, they don't follow the rules of public comment as well as they should. But they will be heard.

Sooner or later, one way or another. Leo Morris, columnist for The Indiana Policy Review, is winner of the Hoosier Press Association's award for Best Editorial Writer. Morris, as opinion editor of the Fort Wayne News-Sentinel, was named a finalist in editorial writing by the Pulitzer Prize committee. Contact him at leoedits@yahoo.com.

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Outage highlights how vital Facebook has become worldwide

By MAE ANDERSON
Associated Press

NEW YORK — The six-hour outage at Facebook, Instagram and Whatsapp was a headache for many casual users but far more serious for the millions of people worldwide who rely on the social media sites to run their businesses or communicate with relatives, fellow parents, teachers or neighbors.

When all three services went dark Monday, it was a stark reminder of the power and reach of Facebook, which owns the photo-sharing and messaging apps.

Around the world, the breakdown at WhatsApp left many at a loss. In Brazil, the messaging service is by far the most widely used app in the country, installed on 99 percent of smartphones, according to tech pollster Mobile Time.

WhatsApp has become essential in Brazil to communicate with friends and family, as well as for a variety of other tasks, such as ordering food. Offices, various services and even the courts had trouble making appointments, and phone lines became overwhelmed.

Hundreds of thousands of Haitians in their homeland and abroad fretted over the WhatsApp outage.

Many of the country’s more than 11 million people depend it to alert one another about gang violence in particular neighborhoods or to talk to relatives in the U.S. about money transfers and other important matters. Haitian migrants traveling to the U.S. rely on it to find each other or share key information such as safe places to sleep.

Nelzy Mireille, a 35-year-old unemployed woman who depends on money sent from relatives abroad, said she stopped at a repair shop in the capital of Port-au-Prince because she thought her phone was malfunctioning.

“I was waiting on confirma-

tion on a money transfer from my cousin,” she said. “I was so frustrated.”

“I was not able to hear from my love,” complained 28-year-old Wilkens Bourgogne, referring to his partner, who was in the neighboring Dominican Republic, buying goods to bring back to Haiti. He said he was concerned about her safety because of the violence in their homeland.

“Insecurity makes everyone worry,” he said.

In rebel-held Syria, where the telecommunication infrastructure has been disrupted by war, residents and emergency workers rely mostly on internet communication.

Naser AlMuhawish, a Turkey-based Syrian doctor who monitors coronavirus cases in rebel-held territory in Syria, said WhatsApp is the main communication method used with over 500 workers in the field.

They switched to Skype, but WhatsApp works better when internet service is shaky, he said. If there had been an emergency such as shelling that he needed to warn field workers about, there could have been major problems, he said.

“Luckily this didn’t happen yesterday during the outage,” he said.

But hospitals treating COVID-19 patients in the region were thrown into panic. They lost contact with oxygen suppliers who have no fixed location and are normally reached via WhatsApp. One hospital sent staff member searching for oxygen at nearly two dozen facilities, said Dr. Fadi Hakim of the Syrian American Medical Society.

In Lima, Peru, the breakdown complicated dental technician Mary Mejia’s job. Like most Peruvian medical workers, she uses WhatsApp for a multitude of tasks, including scheduling appointments and ordering crowns.

“Sometimes the doctor will

be working on a patient and I need to contact a technician for job,” she said. “To have to step away and make a phone call? It trips us up. We’ve become so accustomed to this tool.”

Millions of Africans use WhatsApp for all their voice calls, so “people felt they were cut off from the world,” said Mark Tinka, a Ugandan who heads engineering at SEACOM, a South Africa-based internet infrastructure company.

Many Africans also use WhatsApp to connect with relatives in other countries. Tinka’s stepdaughter lives in Caldwell, Idaho, and lost her father on Sunday, but could not speak with her family back in Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania, to arrange travel for the funeral.

“It’s amazing just how little folks understand the impact of three or four content companies on the utility of the Internet,” Tinka said.

Facebook said the outage was due to an internal error related to a “configuration change” but gave no details.

The outage came amid a crisis at Facebook, accused by a whistleblower on “60 Minutes” and on Capitol Hill of profiting from hate and division and suppressing research showing that Instagram contributes to body-image problems, eating disorders and thoughts of suicide in young women.

For small businesses, the outages meant hundreds or thousands of dollars in lost revenue.

Andrewos Bassous is a Palestinian photographer in the Israeli-occupied West Bank whose Facebook page has more than 1 million followers. He has worked with companies including Samsung and Turkish Airlines to create social media content. He said the social media blackout meant he was unable to book appointments or share videos online for companies that employ him.

Black colleges’ funding hopes dim amid federal budget battle

By PIPER HUDSPETH
BLACKBURN and ANNIE MA
Associated Press

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — Optimism for transformational funding for the nation’s historically Black colleges was running high after the Biden administration included \$45 billion for the schools in its massive multitrillion dollar spending plan.

That outlook quickly soured as the funding became ensnared in Democratic infighting over the size of the economic package and what it should cover. The latest iteration of the bill includes just \$2 billion that can go toward educational programs and infrastructure for Black colleges, and even that amount would be reduced to competitive grant funding rather than direct allocations.

That’s especially disappointing for many smaller, private historically Black colleges that don’t have the endowments as their larger and more well-known peers. They often struggle to upgrade their campuses and programs, hurting their ability to attract students.

The Biden administration’s original \$3.5 trillion proposal called for sending at least \$45 billion to Black colleges and other minority-serving institutions to update their research programs, create incubators to help students innovate and help traditionally underserved populations.

Getting a slice of that would have been a boon to Philander Smith College in Little Rock, Arkansas, a private historically Black college. President Roderick L. Smothers said federal coronavirus relief money was instrumental in helping the university survive the pandemic with technology upgrades and student support, but he said Biden’s original proposal provided the kind of money that would have had a long-term impact.

“We used the funds that we

received to serve the students that we have, and now we’re asking for additional funds to make sure that when we are on the other side of this global pandemic our institutions will be bigger and better and more resilient,” Smothers said.

The college increased its enrollment by 43 percent between 2010 and 2019, the latest data available, but saw its endowment drop 18 percent during the same timeframe, according to federal data analyzed by The Associated Press. Overall, enrollment at the nation’s roughly 102 Black colleges has been declining – from 326,827 in 2010 to 289,507 in 2019.

Beyond building upgrades, Smothers said Philander Smith College would have used the long-term federal funding to expand programs for its students, 81 percent of which are low income. That might include launching a public health school that would train students to tackle health disparities affecting racial minorities and help address the state’s nursing shortage.

Democratic Rep. Bobby Scott of Virginia, who leads the U.S. House education committee, said historically Black colleges have received unprecedented levels of federal funding over the past two years, more than they have in the past decade combined. That includes \$1.6 billion under the Democrats’ American Rescue Plan passed earlier this year.

The money has allowed them to pursue initiatives such as cancelling student debt during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Scott, a member of the Congressional Black Caucus, said the draft bill also includes \$27 billion for student aid at Black colleges and other institutions serving racial minorities. Still, he acknowledged the need for more funding.

“We’d like to do as much

as we can,” Scott said. “I’m not satisfied. I’m not satisfied with anything in the budget that’s within our jurisdiction.”

Scott said the Department of Education had committed to ensuring the grant program contained in the current bill would be structured so similar colleges would be competing with each other. It’s a way to prevent larger ones with robust grant-writing departments from edging out smaller schools.

That’s important to address vast differences between the colleges. The Associated Press analysis of enrollment and endowment data found wide disparities among the 102 historically Black colleges and universities, and a further divide between private and public institutions. Federal data, for example, showed that 11 HBCUs had endowments worth less than \$1,000 per pupil in the 2018-19 school year while nine had endowments worth more than \$50,000 per pupil.

In general, Black colleges have lacked the fundraising ability of other universities. The cumulative endowment for all historical Black colleges through 2019 was a little more than \$3.9 billion, about the same as the endowment for just the University of Minnesota. Advocates said the funding struggles and the role the colleges have played historically is why long-term federal assistance is needed.

Harry L. Williams, president of the Thurgood Marshall College Fund, which represents public HBCUs, was surprised and disappointed by the reduced allocation for Black colleges in the latest Democratic economic plan, which likely will be trimmed to around \$2 trillion. He also said they should not be lumped in with other institutions serving racial minorities, which he said can include many large state universities.

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